



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

April 29, 2008

MR. WILLIAM J MAXWELL  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
608 SOUTH WRIGHT STREET  
URBANA, IL 61801

Subject: REDDING, J. SAUNDERS

FOIPA No. 1077392

Dear Mr. Maxwell:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

**Section 552**

**Section 552a**

☒ (b)(1)

☐ (b)(7)(A)

☐ (d)(5)

☒ (b)(2)

☐ (b)(7)(B)

☐ (j)(2)

☐ (b)(3) \_\_\_\_\_

☒ (b)(7)(C)

☐ (k)(1)

☒ (b)(7)(D)

☐ (k)(2)

☐ (b)(7)(E)

☐ (k)(3)

☐ (b)(7)(F)

☐ (k)(4)

☐ (b)(4)

☐ (b)(8)

☐ (k)(5)

☐ (b)(5)

☐ (b)(9)

☐ (k)(6)

☒ (b)(6)

☐ (k)(7)

**134 pages** were reviewed and **105 pages** are being released.

☒ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

☒ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.

☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.


☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

for final  
1/7  
awm

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s). If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,



David M. Hardy  
Section Chief  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Records Management Division

Enclosures

Please be advised that certain information contained in FBI Headquarters file 123-14868 has been withheld per protective court order in the case styled National Lawyers Guild v. The Attorney General, Civil Action #77 CIV-999 in the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York.

## EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could be reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could be reasonably expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 29

Page 3 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 5 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 8 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 9 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 10 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 11 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 12 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 13 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 14 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 15 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 16 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 17 ~ Referral/Direct  
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Page 28 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 29 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 30 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 31 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 32 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 33 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 152 ~ Referral/Direct

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X Deleted Page(s) X  
X No Duplication Fee X  
X for this Page X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

4-22

Subj:

Redding, Jay Saunders

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

Address:

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld

Birthdate:

SUPV:

Misc:

R#

Date

Searcher

Initial

FILE NUMBER

FEB 1 1953

SERIAL

12 1953

Redding

62-60527-32077

Summary - 15 225

J. Saunders

Redding, Jay Saunders

In America

100-10338-3771 NO 15

Info. included in 956 enclosure

100-135-1298 P. 1601 (A)

100-377-633-1

100-135-150, 27, NO

100-135-164

100-135-168

100-135-3-22

100-135-207 A - the worker

author of "no day of triumph" (see Louisville file)

100-90431-125

4-22

Subj:

Bedding, Jay Saunders

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

SUPV: \_\_\_\_\_

Misc: \_\_\_\_\_

R#

0

Date

2-10

Searcher

Initial

by

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

J. Saunders

W. I. ~~100-766-1944~~ <sup>W. I. Saunders</sup>

SFI ~~100-3525-46-45-9~~

~~100-24699-23 get out~~

J. S.

~~100-224077-335 get out~~

~~100-3-sub 4-2504-11-25 get out~~

(Jan. Var.)

(60) ~~100-121089-286) 41~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, ~~Buffalo~~ <sup>Director</sup> (Your file 123-776) DATE: March 13, 1953

FROM Buffalo  
Director, FBI 123-14868

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld

SUBJECT: JAY SAUNDERS REDDING  
VOA

(4) The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to immediately submit a report. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau.

Re My airtel 3/5/53 3/13/53  
Report submitted

Report will be submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for delay \_\_\_\_\_

- ( ) Advise Bureau re status of this case.
- ( ) Advise Bureau when report may be expected.
- ( ) Surep immediately.

b6  
b7C

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.) 16-66216-7

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, *wfo* (Your file ) DATE: *March 21, 1953*FROM : Director, FBI *123-14868* ✓ ALL INFORMATION CONTAINEDSUBJECT: *JAY SAUNDERS REDDING* ✓ HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
*VOA* DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld*Bud. & Feb. 27*

- (4) The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to immediately submit a report. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau.

Report submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Report will be submitted *When results received from CSC*Reason for delay *Check at CSC outstanding**Re PH Airtel 3/12/53*

- (4) Advise Bureau re status of this case.

- ( ) Advise Bureau when report may be expected

- ( ) Surep immediately.

*123-13769*

SEARCHED <i>llh</i>	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 23 1953	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

*WJ*

b6  
b7C

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top Serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)

16-66216-1



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, New York (Your file ) DATE: March 13, 1953

FROM : LVB Director, FBI 123-14868

SUBJECT: JAY SAUNDERS REDDING

YOR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/clb

(2) The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to immediately submit a report. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau.

Report submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Report will be submitted 3/27/53

Reason for delay CONTACTING INFORMANTS RE

LOYALTY OF APPLICANT'S BROTHER

- ( ) Advise Bureau re status of this case.
- ( ) Advise Bureau when report may be expected.
- ( ) Surep immediately.

123-9976

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAR 13 1953	
FBI NEW YORK	

b6  
b7C

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication)

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, Cleveland (Your file 123-1152) DATE: March 13, 1953

FROM : Director, FBI 123-14868 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld

SUBJECT: JAY SAUNDERS REDDING  
VOM

(+) The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to immediately submit a report. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau.

RUC letter

Report submitted

3-17-53

Report will be submitted

Reason for delay

Re NF airtel 3/2/53

- ( ) Advise Bureau re status of this case.
- ( ) Advise Bureau when report may be expected.
- ( ) Surep immediately.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 16 1953	
CLARK	

b6  
b7c

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top series in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (File 123-14868 ) DATE: 2/25/53  
FROM : *LVB* SAC, NEW YORK (File 123-9976 )

SUBJECT: JAY SAUNDERS REDDING  
VOICE OF AMERICA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline: 2/27/53

Reason for the delinquency:

Derogatory loyalty information being developed

Date the report or necessary communication  
will reach the Bureau: 3/9/53

AEC zone designation, e.g., OR, CH, etc.:  
(This applies only to 116 cases.)

NOT RECORDED  
6 FEB 26 1953

*STB*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (File ) DATE: 2/27/53

FROM : SAC, Baltimore (File 123-1896 )

SUBJECT: JAY SAUNDERS REDDING

V.O.A.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline: 2/27/53

Reason for the delinquency: *subversive derogatory information  
on applicants brother*Date the report or necessary communication  
will reach the Bureau: 3/5/53AEC zone designation, e.g., OR, CH, etc.:  
(This applies only to 116 cases.)NOT RECORDED  
6 MAR 3 1953

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (File ) DATE: 2/26/53

FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA (File 123- 2036 )

SUBJECT: JAY SAUNDERS. REDDING  
Special Inquiry - State Department  
Public Law 402, 80th Congress  
(VOA)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline: 2/27/53

Reason for the delinquency:

*Pressure of other opposite investigations in the resident agency.*Date the report or necessary communication  
will reach the Bureau: 3/6/53AEC zone designation, e.g., OR, CH, etc.:  
(This applies only to 116 cases.)NOT RECORDED  
11 FEB 27 1953

RDN:

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (File ) DATE: 3/6/53

FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA (File 123 - 3036 )

SUBJECT: JAY SAUNDERS REDDING,  
SPECIAL INQUIRY, STATE DEPT.  
PUBLIC LAW 402, 80th CONGRESS  
(VOICE OF AMERICA)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline: 2/27/53

Reason for the delinquency:

*Pressure of other deadline cases in the R/a, and subsequent  
development of additional leads in PH division, not listed on  
applicants PSC.*Date the report or necessary communication  
will reach the Bureau:

3/11/53

AEC zone designation, e.g., OR, CH, etc.:  
(This applies only to 116 cases.)

NOT RECORDED

27 MAR 6 1953

RDN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/c13

SAC, New Orleans (123-623)

April 23, 1953

Director, FBI

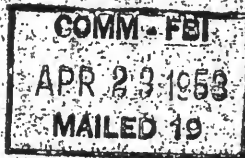
JAY SAUNDERS REDDING  
SPECIAL INQUIRY - STATE DEPARTMENT  
PUBLIC LAW 402, 80TH CONGRESS  
VOICE OF AMERICA

b6  
b7C

The Bureau has classified the report of SA [redacted] dated  
3/10/53 as follows: "Security Information - ~~Confidential~~".

CJS:ceh

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



SAC, Norfolk

February 13, 1953

Director, FBI (123-14868)

JAY SAUNDERS REDDING  
VOICE OF AMERICA

Buded February 27, 1953.

ReBulet February 6, 1953.

Bufiles contain following references to the above-named individual:

Reurfile 100-4260, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, report of SA [ ] dated October 13, 1950, at New Orleans, a copy of which was furnished your office, page 15. (100-10355-374)

Rerep SA [ ] dated March 18, 1944, at Cleveland, a copy of which was furnished your office, page 18, Universal Negro Improvement Association.

b6  
b7C

New York reurfile 100-26603, Communist Party, USA, urlet November 2, 1942, enclosing "Communist Trends," page 2. (100-3-4-984)

Reurfile 100-51820, Jefferson School of Social Science-  
IS-C, report of SA [ ] dated January 2, 1951, page 47.

(100-227027-235)

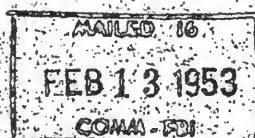
cc: 2 - New York

RECORDED - 101

123-14868-3  
MAY 11 1953

Tolson  
Ladd  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Nichols  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Harbo  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Tele. Room  
Nease

MLI:dls



b6  
b7C

180  
JUL 2 1953



AIR-TEL  
XXXXXX

FBI

ALBANY

2-26-53

ATN

SAC, NEW YORK

JAY SAUNDERS HEDDING, VOA. FOL AIR-TEL RECEIVED FROM BOSTON: "REBULET  
TO NORFOLK DATED FEBRUARY SIX LAST. RECORDS UNIV. OF LOUISVILLE,  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY REFLECT APPLI. LISTED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BROWN UNIV., PROV., R.I., AS REFERENCE. [REDACTED] NOW

AVAILABLE BARD COLLEGE, POUGHKEEPSIE, NY. HANDLE." NEW YORK HANDLE.

POWERS

END

JAM:ATN

cc: Bureau (AM)  
Boston (Info.) (REGULAR MAIL)

b6  
b7C  
b7D

NT  
123-14868-V  
NOT RECORDED

2 MAR 2 1953

180  
25 JUN 2 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-20-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAM/STP/cid

AIRTEL

FBI, BOSTON

2/25/53

atb

SAC, ALBANY

JAY SAUNDERS REDDING, VOA. REGULET TO NORFOLK DATED FEBRUARY  
SIX LAST. RECORDS UNIV. OF LOUISVILLE, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY  
RESPECT APPLI. LISTED [REDACTED]  
BROWN UNIV., PROV., R.I. <sup>as reference</sup> [REDACTED] NOW AVAILABLE BARD COLLEGE,  
POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. HANDLE.

b6  
b7C  
b7D

MARCHESSAULT

REZ/atb  
123-3366

cc: Bureau

*Army lead -  
AL sent airtel to  
NY 2-26-53  
Poughkeepsie covered  
by NY  
AL*

*123-14868-12*

NOT RECORDED

21 FEB 26 1953

180  
25 JUN 2 1953

AIR-TEL  
XXXXXX

FBI, NEW YORK

FBI, LOUISVILLE *lead* 2-18-53

5:00 P.M.

DD

*W*  
FBI, NEW YORK  
*0*

AIR MAIL

*covered*  
JAY SAUNDERS REDDING, VOA. REBULET TO NORFOLK DATED FEBRUARY 6,  
1953. EMPLOYMENT RECORDS UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE REFLECT  
APPLICANT RESIDED AT 180 WEST 135TH STREET, YMCA, NEW YORK,  
NEW YORK, ON JANUARY 9, 1935. NEW YORK HANDLE. RECORDS  
REFLECT APPLICANT ALSO RESIDED AT 203 EAST TENTH STREET,  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE. BALTIMORE HANDLE.

BOYLE

END

DEO:DD

LS 123-428

CC: ① - Bureau  
2 - Baltimore *lead*

*NY*  
*JA*  
*BA*  
  
123-14868-✓  
NOT RECORDED

2 FEB 20 1953

180  
25 JUN 2 1953

AIRTEL  
XXXXXXX

FBI, BOSTON

FBI, LOUISVILLE

2-17-53

5:00 P.M.

DD

FBI, BOSTON

AIR MAIL

JAY SAUNDERS REDDING, VOA. REBULET TO NORFOLK DATED FEBRUARY 6,  
1953. RECORDS UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY,  
REFLECT THE APPLICANT LISTED THE FOLLOWING AS REFERENCES:

[REDACTED] BROWN  
UNIVERSITY, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

[REDACTED]  
BROWN UNIVERSITY

[REDACTED]  
BROWN UNIVERSITY

[REDACTED] GRADUATE SCHOOL, BROWN  
UNIVERSITY

b6  
b7C  
b7D

BOSTON HANDLE.

[REDACTED] MOREHOUSE  
COLLEGE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA

[REDACTED] MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

ATLANTA HANDLE.

BOYLE

END

DEO:DD

LS 123-428

CC: 2 - Bureau  
2 - Atlanta

123-14868-✓  
NOT RECORDED

24 FEB 19 1953

180  
25 JUN 2 1953

BS  
AT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FD-36  
Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Garty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AIRTEL

Transmit the following ~~Teletype~~ message to: BUREAU

FBI, LOUISVILLE

2-20-53

DIRECTOR, FBI

AIR MAIL

J. SAUNDERS REDDING, VOA. REBULET TO NORFOLK 2-6-53.

ASSOCIATES LOUISVILLE ADVISE APPLICANT AUTHOR OF  
"NO DAY OF TRIUMPH," "THE CALL OF PORT BLACK," AND  
"THEY CAME IN CHAINS -- AMERICANS FROM AFRICA."  
THE ABOVE IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

BOYLE

END

2 - NORFOLK (INFO)

DEO:mbg  
LS 123-428

101 - RECORDED

FEB 24 1953

21

180 Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

26 JUL 2 1953



INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-25-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT Louisville, Kentucky	DATE WHEN MADE 2-25-53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-17, 18, 19, 20-53	REPORT MADE BY JME
TITLE JAY SAUNDERS REDDING		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY - STATE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC LAW 402, 80th CONGRESS, VOICE OF AMERICA	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS  <i>Photo - CIA 7-31-61 SPP/aw AGENCY REC'D REQ. REC'D REPLY FOR BY 2/23/53</i>		Employment Louisville, Kentucky, verified. Former associates consider applicant of good character, reputation, and associates. Associates advise applicant the author of "No Day of Triumph," "The Call of Port Black," and "They Came in Chains -- Americans From Africa." Neighborhood investigation reflects nothing un- favorable. Louisville confidential informants, of known reliability, who were acquainted with activities and membership of the Communist Party and Socialist Workers Party from 1934 through 1936 advised that applicant is unknown to them. No credit or criminal record located for applicant at Louisville.  - RUC -	
REFERENCES: Bureau letter to Norfolk dated February 6, 1953. Louisville airtel to Boston dated February 17, 1953. Louisville airtel to New York dated February 18, 1953. Louisville airtel to the Bureau dated February 20, 1953.			
SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADD: DISSEMINATION			
DETAILS:		EMPLOYMENT University of	
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>E.S.B.</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DEC 20 1953 UNIVERSITY OF	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT ① - Bureau 1 - Louisville (123-428) 1 cc WES C 1 cc AAG, Com		123-14866-5 MAR 12 1953 RECORDED - 101	

b6  
b7C

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952-O-210616

16-59255-2

LS. 123-428

Louisville, Kentucky, stated that the employment records only reflect that the applicant signed a one year contract beginning May 3, 1935 for the Louisville Municipal College. The applicant's position was listed as instructor, English Department. [redacted] stated that the Louisville Municipal College is now incorporated with the University of Louisville. The record reflects applicant signed the contract as J. SAUNDERS REDDING. The records disclose no further information. [redacted] stated that she did not know the applicant.

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[redacted] Instructor, University of Louisville, stated that he recalled the applicant as a former instructor at the Louisville Municipal College in 1935. He stated that he was acquainted with the applicant socially and at no time did any question arise in his mind concerning the loyalty or patriotism of the applicant. He stated he considered the applicant to be of good character, reputation, and associates. He recommended the applicant for a position of trust.

[redacted] a former instructor at Louisville Municipal College, stated that he was socially acquainted with the applicant from 1935 to 1936. He stated that at no time has he had reason to doubt the applicant's loyalty or patriotism toward the United States Government. He stated he was acquainted with the applicant's wife and considered her a loyal American.

[redacted] stated further that the applicant wrote the following books:

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"The Call of Port Black"

"No Day of Triumph"

"They Came in Chains -- Americans From Africa"

[redacted] considered the applicant to be of excellent character, reputation, and associates. He stated he has not seen the applicant since 1936. The above books were not available for review at the Louisville Public Library.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD

The 1935 Louisville City Directory reflects applicant resided at 3021 West Chestnut. The 1936 Louisville City Directory reflects applicant resided at 3437 Virginia. The 1937 directory fails to reflect a listing for the applicant.

[redacted] stated that she was acquainted with the applicant as a neighbor in 1935. She stated that at no time did the applicant conduct himself in other than a highly satisfactory manner. She stated that she was acquainted with the applicant's wife and considered her a reputable and patriotic American. She commented favorably on the character, reputation, and associates of the applicant.

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LS. 123-428

[redacted] stated that she recalled the applicant as a former neighbor in 1936. She stated she was acquainted with the applicant's wife and considered her a respectable and loyal American. She stated she had no reason to doubt the applicant's loyalty or patriotism towards the United States Government. She commented favorably on the applicant's character and reputation and stated applicant associated with individuals of good character. She stated she has not seen the applicant since 1936. b6 b7C b7D

[redacted] and [redacted] stated that they have only recently moved into the locality and therefore did not know the applicant.

[redacted] stated that she recalled the applicant as a neighbor in 1936. She stated that she was acquainted with the applicant's wife and considered her a good neighbor and loyal American. She stated that at no time has any question arisen in her mind concerning the applicant's loyalty or patriotism. She stated that the applicant was of excellent character, reputation, and associated with individuals of like character. She stated she has not seen the applicant since 1936. b6 b7C b7D

[redacted] and [redacted] stated they have resided seventeen and ten years respectively, at the above address but do not recall the applicant.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Confidential Informant Louisville T-1, of known reliability, who was familiar with the Communist Party and the Socialist Workers Party's activities in Louisville from 1934 to 1936 advised that he has never heard of J. SAUNDERS REDDING.

Confidential Informant Louisville T-2, of known reliability, who was familiar with Communist Party activities in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1936, advised that he did not know J. SAUNDERS REDDING and no one by that name was connected with the Communist Party in Louisville in 1936.

#### CREDIT

[redacted] Louisville Credit Bureau, Louisville, Kentucky, stated that the records disclose no information concerning the applicant. b6 b7C b7D



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CRIMINAL

[REDACTED] Louisville Police Department, Records and Identification Section, Louisville, Kentucky, stated that the files disclosed no record for applicant or his family.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

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Louisville T-1 is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] who gave information to Special Agent [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Louisville Office, on February 25, 1953.

Louisville T-2 is [REDACTED] whose identity is known to the  
Bureau, who gave information to Special Agent [REDACTED]  
Louisville Office, on February 25, 1953.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-25-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT <b>CHARLOTTE</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2-25-53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2-13,16,17-53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] : IRS</b>
TITLE <b>JAY SAUNDERS REDDING</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY - STATE DEPARTMENT Public Law 402, 80th-Congress VOICE OF AMERICA</b>	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:  <div style="float: left; width: 20%;"><p><i>AGENCY REC'D - FSA REQ. REC'D 5/11/53 REP. FORM 6-22-53 BY [signature]</i></p></div> <p>Investigation at Elizabeth City, N. C. revealed applicant considered not only loyal and patriotic, but intelligently fervent in this regard. Credit and identification negative.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Photo via 7-31-61 89P/aw</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p>REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Norfolk dated February 6, 1953.</p> <p>DETAILS: <u>AT ELIZABETH CITY, NORTH CAROLINA</u></p> <p><b>[REDACTED]</b> State Teachers College, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, advised that although she was not a close social acquaintance of JAY SAUNDERS REDDING, she knew him as a fellow staff member while at the college from 1938 until 1943. <b>[REDACTED]</b> stated that REDDING impressed her very favorably. It was her opinion that he was one of the outstanding personalities she had ever known. <b>[REDACTED]</b> stated she could not recall any specific organizations that REDDING was affiliated with during the time he was at the State Teachers College, but to the best of her knowledge he belonged only to academic honoraries, such as Phi Beta Kappa.</p> <p><b>[REDACTED]</b> advised she has read some of the books written by JAY SAUNDERS REDDING and stated that <b>[REDACTED]</b> nothing she had read</p> <div style="float: right; width: 20%;"><p><i>SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADD. DISSEMINATION</i></p></div>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>123-148182-6</b> <b>REC'D</b> <b>CC 10</b> <b>38 FEB 26 1953</b> <b>RECORDED - 100</b>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT <b>7 - Bureau</b> <b>2 - Charlotte (123-987)</b> <b>4 CC SC</b> <b>1 CC AGC</b>			

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gave any indication of anything but complete loyalty to the Federal Government and satisfaction in democracy as a political philosopher. Without equivocation, [ ] recommended JAY SAUNDERS REDDING as a person completely loyal and patriotic and worthy of a position of trust with the government.

[ ] State Teachers College, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, advised that JAY SAUNDERS REDDING taught at this institution for five years in the latter part of the 1930's and early part of the 1940's. [ ] advised that he was not aware that REDDING had been affiliated with any organizations other than strictly academic during his tenure at the State Teachers College. He stated Mr. REDDING won the "Mayflower Award" several years ago for his book No Day of Triumph. This award is presented to North Carolina authors for outstanding productions in the literary field. [ ] advised that REDDING had written several other books, among them To Make a Poet, Black and Readings for Freshman English Composition, written in collaboration with another professor [ ]

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[ ] stated he was not personally familiar with any of REDDING'S relatives other than a brother, LOUIS REDDING, attorney, Wilmington, Delaware, and an [ ] last name unknown, whom he had previously met through the applicant. He stated he believed that these persons enjoyed a good reputation in their community, but that other than that he knew nothing of them.

[ ] stated that JAY SAUNDERS REDDING spoke at the Chapel of the State Teachers College at Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Sunday, February 8, 1953, on the request of the college authorities. [ ] advised that had REDDING been considered anything but patriotic, he would have never received such a request. He went on to say that REDDING was frequently requested to return to the State Teachers College for such addresses.

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It was [ ] opinion that JAY SAUNDERS REDDING has a keener appreciation of democracy than most. He stated that he has specifically discussed political philosophy and democracy with Mr. REDDING and believes that democracy and America have no more staunch supporter. [ ] related that the REDDINGS have recently returned from a trip to India which had been sponsored by the State Department, and he was of the opinion that this trip did much to focus REDDING'S appreciation of the American form of government and way of life. [ ] strongly



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recommended the applicant for a position of trust with the government.

[redacted] advised that he knew JAY SAUNDERS REDDING during the period that he taught at the State Teachers College in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. [redacted] stated he never knew the applicant to be connected with any type of organization or society that might be considered questionable. He stated that he has read parts of the book To Make A Poet Black, written by JAY SAUNDERS REDDING, but none of the other of his works. He advised that he had never been acquainted with any of Mr. REDDING'S relatives. [redacted] was of the opinion that REDDING was a completely loyal and patriotic citizen and he stated he would highly recommend him for a position of trust with the government.

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[redacted] advised that she has been a close friend and acquaintance of JAY SAUNDERS REDDING and his family both socially and professionally since 1941 when she first met him at the State Teachers College at Elizabeth City, North Carolina. [redacted] stated she had read most of Mr. REDDING'S writings and advised that though his writings often offered pointed criticism of racial inequities existing in the United States, nothing contained in these writings indicated that he considered the American form of government other than the only way of satisfactorily reconciling these difficulties.

[redacted] advised that she is not acquainted with any of REDDING'S relatives. She stated that JAY SAUNDERS REDDING was the principal speaker at the vespers service at the State Teachers College Chapel, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, on Sunday, February 8, 1953. In this speech, Mr. REDDING dwelt on Communism at some length. He strongly defended democracy and stated he had also done so on many occasions while visiting India during his recent trip under the auspices of the State Department. [redacted] feels and says that REDDING expressly states that he detests Communism. [redacted] stated that many negroes in the South tend to be bitter to the extent that they failed to look at social and political problems objectively. She considers this a weakness or human failing that Mr. REDDING has not succumbed to. She stated that REDDING has a unique ability to evaluate objectively and without prejudice. She went on to say that through this ability, he has seen the errors in the arguments put forth and directed towards the negro population in the United States of foreign ideologies. He staunchly defends this country and its form of government wherever the opportunity presents itself. He specifically stated in his Sunday speech that while in India he found the Indians citing examples of reported injustices in the United States toward members of minority groups. He stated that many times he found himself having to

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defend America, saying "that is my country." He strongly objected to the citing of rare examples and the suggesting that these rare examples constituted the rule in American life rather than the exception.

[redacted] strongly recommends REDDING as an intelligently fervent patriot and considers him preeminently qualified for a position of trust with the Federal Government.

[redacted] State Teachers College, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, advised that she was acquainted with JAY SAUNDERS REDDING during the period that he taught at the State Teachers College in Elizabeth City during the late 1930's and early 1940's. She stated that during this time she knew REDDING quite well. She stated that she was not aware of any particular organizations that REDDING might have belonged to at that time. It was her opinion that this man would not have a membership in any organization of a questionable nature. [redacted] advised she recalled REDDING had written a good many books, among them No Day of Triumph, Stranger and Alone, and On Being a Negro in America. She stated that she could derive from these books no hint of lack of loyalty and patriotism. [redacted] stated that she had never been acquainted with any of Mr. REDDING'S relatives. [redacted] advised that JAY SAUNDERS REDDING had spoken at the college chapel Sunday, February 8, 1953, about his trip to India for the State Department. She stated that during his speech he indicated that India has lost many of its good minds to Communism. He stated that frequently he was placed in the position of having to strongly defend democracy in America while in India.

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[redacted] considers REDDING a staunch defender of democracy and a loyal, patriotic American. He would highly recommend him for a position of trust with the government.

[redacted]  
[redacted] of the Colored American Legion Post in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, advised that he remembers JAY SAUNDERS REDDING quite well. He remembered that REDDING had written a good many books and articles and was considered an outstanding teacher by both students and faculty. [redacted] stated that from his acquaintance with REDDING, he had gained the impression that he was very straightforward and of good character. From discussion and speeches of REDDING [redacted] felt that REDDING was a completely loyal and patriotic citizen. He also stated that he had never heard

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anything from students, faculty members, or neighbors indicating anything but complete loyalty and integrity on the part of JAY SAUNDERS REDDING.

[redacted] advised that he was a close friend of [redacted] who was considered exceedingly well informed on the conditions and personalities of the State Teachers College, Elizabeth City, North Carolina. [redacted] stated that since he felt that [redacted] would give information more freely to him than to the writer, he would be glad to discuss JAY SAUNDERS REDDING with her without divulging the reason therefor.

[redacted] of known reliability, advised that he had under pretense discussed with [redacted] the applicant. He stated that [redacted] considers JAY SAUNDERS REDDING an outstanding person of unquestioned loyalty. Upon being questioned by [redacted] concerning the subject of REDDING'S loyalty, she was incensed at any intimation of doubt concerning the loyalty of JAY SAUNDERS REDDING and stated that if she had to choose "the faculty member of recent years that was most fervently loyal and patriotic; it would be JAY SAUNDERS REDDING." [redacted] advised that these statements were made by [redacted] in refuting statements made by [redacted] and attributed to fellow legionnaires concerning REDDING'S loyalty and political philosophy.

#### Credit and Identification

[redacted] Records Court, Pasquotank County, Elizabeth City, North Carolina; [redacted] Superior Court, Pasquotank County, Elizabeth City, North Carolina; and [redacted] Credit Bureau, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, all advised their offices have no record of JAY SAUNDERS REDDING.

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

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REPORT MADE AT <b>ATLANTA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/26/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/18,19,24-26/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> bmb
TITLE <b>JAY SAUNDERS REDDING</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY - STATE DEPARTMENT, PUBLIC LAW 402, 80TH CONGRESS (VOICE OF AMERICA)</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

School records, Morehouse College, Atlanta, reflect JAY SAUNDERS REDDING employed as instructor in English 1928-31. Faculty members and acquaintances recommend REDDING as a man of good character, reputation, associates and patriotic American worthy of a position of trust with the U. S. Government. Credit and criminal records negative.

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## REFERENCE:

Bureau letter to Norfolk, cc Atlanta, dated February 6, 1953.  
Louisville airtel to Boston, cc Atlanta, dated February 17, 1953.

## DETAILS:

### AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

[REDACTED] Morehouse College, produced the official school register which reflected that JAY SAUNDERS REDDING was a member of the faculty at Morehouse College and an instructor in the English Department from September 1928 to June 1931. [REDACTED] stated that there are no application blanks or other background records on file at Morehouse College regarding faculty members who were employed at this early date.

[REDACTED] Morehouse College, advised that there are no files maintained on former faculty members at Morehouse College which would reflect background data.

CC TO *Photo*  
REQ. REC'D *14-64*  
DEC 30 1964  
ANS. BY: *Adm. Jan*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>123-14868-7</b> <b>MAR 3 1953</b> <b>RECORDED - 101</b>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT <b>3 - Bureau (AMSD)</b> <b>1 - Atlanta (123-695)</b> <b>1 - AAG, Conn</b> <b>2 - photo stats &amp; CSC</b>			

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[redacted] Atlanta University and Morehouse College, advised that he has been acquainted with REDDING for approximately 25 years. He stated that REDDING was employed as an instructor in the English Department at Morehouse College and worked [redacted] for the three years that he was at Morehouse. [redacted] stated that at the time REDDING came to Morehouse no formal application was submitted by faculty members and that to his knowledge no personnel file was maintained by the school. [redacted] advised that in regard to the character and reputation of REDDING, he would highly recommend him without any reservations. He stated that in regard to REDDING's loyalty as an American citizen, that he considers him loyal and patriotic and a firm believer in our constitutional form of government. He advised that REDDING has written several books since leaving Morehouse College and that it might be deducted from these writings that REDDING is a protestor--meaning one who speaks freely against what he considers to be injustices against his own people. He advised that REDDING feels such matters keenly and that he is a sensitive person; however, he considers REDDING to be a loyal and patriotic American on the basis of his association with him. He advised that REDDING is in reality a snob and an aristocrat amongst the negro people and for that reason would not believe him interested in any subversive movements, Communist or otherwise. He advised that REDDING possesses a great deal of literary talent and that he considers him a literary artist expressing himself as an artist rather than voicing actual objections and he thinks REDDING is a firm believer in the due process of law under our present form of government. He stated that during the time REDDING was a member of the faculty at Morehouse College, SAMUEL H. ARCHER and Dr. JOHN HOPE were presidents of Morehouse College and that both of these individuals are deceased.

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[redacted] School of Religion, Morehouse College, advised that he had a limited acquaintanceship with JAY SAUNDERS REDDING as he was a student at Morehouse during the time REDDING was a member of the faculty. He stated that REDDING had an excellent reputation at Morehouse as being a capable leader, that he had a strong character and that his associates were primarily those other individuals on the faculty at Morehouse. He advised that he attended several of REDDING's lectures, and based on these lectures and other information he has gained concerning REDDING, he would consider him to be a loyal and patriotic American. He advised that he would recommend REDDING for a position of trust with the government.

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[redacted] Atlanta University, advised that he has known REDDING for approximately 20 years and that he worked under his supervision for two years at Louisville University as a member of the faculty. [redacted] advised that he personally contacted REDDING at Morehouse College in 1931 and offered him a position at Louisville University. He stated that the character and reputation of REDDING are above reproach. He advised that REDDING just recently returned from India where he spent approximately sixty days in connection with some program of the State Department of the United

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States. He advised that the associates of REDDING to his knowledge were those of any other member of a college faculty, mainly confined to fellow instructors and professors. He advised that to his knowledge REDDING is not connected with any Communist groups or any other subversive groups and that he would consider him to be a loyal and patriotic American citizen.

[redacted] Morehouse College, advised that he was a member of the faculty at Morehouse at the time REDDING was also a member. [redacted] stated that on the basis of his association with REDDING approximately two or three years around 1928, that he knew of nothing which would reflect against his character, reputation, associates or loyalty as an American citizen. [redacted] stated that he has had no contact with REDDING since he left the campus of Morehouse College.

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[redacted] Morehouse College, advised that he has been acquainted with REDDING for the past 25 years. He advised that he knew him not only in connection with his work at Morehouse College, but was also socially acquainted with REDDING. He advised that to this day he contacts REDDING when passing through the community where REDDING resides. He further advised that REDDING had an excellent reputation, was of good character and that his associates were generally confined, while at Morehouse, to other faculty members. He advised that since REDDING has become quite prominent as a writer, he probably has developed numerous associates along those lines, but that he is not acquainted with any of them. He stated that he has no qualms whatsoever about recommending REDDING for a position of trust with the U. S. Government, as he considers him a loyal and patriotic American. [redacted] further advised that during the time REDDING was a member of the faculty at Morehouse College, he resided in one of the Morehouse dormitories.

[redacted] Morehouse College, advised that he has been acquainted with REDDING for approximately 25 years; however, during the past 20 years or so his contacts with REDDING have been limited. He stated that on the basis of his previous association with REDDING, he would describe him as having good character, excellent reputation, and his associates were of a similar type. He stated that he had no reason whatsoever to question the loyalty of REDDING as an American citizen.

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[redacted] Morehouse College, advised that he was acquainted with REDDING during the time he was a member of the faculty at Morehouse and has on several occasions seen him since that time. He stated that based on this limited association with REDDING, he would describe him as a man of good character, good reputation and a loyal and patriotic American. [redacted] advised that at the time he was acquainted with REDDING, he was quite young and has no definite idea as to the philosophy of life REDDING has acquired after he has reached his maturity. [redacted] stated that he would recommend REDDING for a position of trust with the United States Government.

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[redacted] Morehouse College, advised that he has been acquainted with REDDING for approximately 30 years as they were both in school at Brown University together, they taught at Morehouse College together and he has since that time kept in contact with REDDING. He stated that the character and reputation of REDDING were unquestionable and that he does not consider him subversive or disloyal as an American citizen. He advised that REDDING is one of the outstanding authors of his race and that he considers him highly individualistic, however has noted that as he has matured with age he has become more mellow in his thinking. He stated that at Hampton Institute where REDDING is presently a faculty member, he is very closely associated with the leaders of that school and believes that he has made a commendable record there. [redacted] advised that he would recommend REDDING for a position of trust with the United States Government.

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[redacted] Atlanta University, advised that she was formerly [redacted] Morehouse College at the time REDDING was on the faculty at Morehouse. She advised that REDDING to her knowledge was of good character, reputation and associated with a similar type of people. She stated that on the basis of her limited association with REDDING, she considered him to be a loyal and patriotic American.

[redacted] Morehouse College, advised that he has been acquainted with REDDING for approximately 25 years. He stated that since REDDING's departure from the campus, his acquaintance has only been casual; however, during the time REDDING was on the faculty at Morehouse, [redacted] advised that he had a good character, excellent reputation, and to his knowledge was a loyal and patriotic American. [redacted] advised that REDDING resided in one of the dormitories at Morehouse College when he was on the faculty. He stated that he would recommend REDDING for a position of trust with the United States Government.

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Confidential informants, of known reliability and who have furnished information concerning Communist activities in the Atlanta area, advised that JAY SAUNDERS REDDING is unknown to them.

#### Credit and criminal

Special Employee [redacted] checked the records of the Atlanta Police Department on REDDING and his wife, and no record could be found.

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Special Employee [redacted] checked the records of the Atlanta Credit Bureau, and no credit record could be found on either JAY SAUNDERS REDDING or his wife.

- RUC -

AT 123-695

ADMINISTRATIVE

INFORMANTS

Confidential source [redacted] and [redacted]  
all were contacted by the reporting agent on February 25, 1953 and  
could furnish no information concerning REDDING.

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT New Orleans, La.	DATE WHEN MADE 2/26/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/12, 13, 17, 18/53	REPORT MADE BY [redacted] sh
TITLE JAY SAUNDERS REDDING			CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY - STATE DEPARTMENT - Public Law 402, 80th Congress (VOICE OF AMERICA)

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## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

JAY SAUNDERS REDDING was Chairman of the English Department at Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from 1936-38. Associates there state he is a loyal citizen; of good character, and bears a good reputation. He has no credit or arrest record at Baton Rouge. Applicant unknown to informants New Orleans and Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

RUC

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Norfolk dated February 6, 1953.

## DETAILS: AT BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

[redacted] Southern University, advised he was personally acquainted with the applicant. He recalled the applicant was Chairman of the English Department there from 1936-38. He said his services were very satisfactory, and he left there for a better position. [redacted] advised REDDING was loyal to the United States, and he did not believe he was affiliated with a subversive organization. He said the applicant might give the impression he is broad in his ideas of freedom but he did not believe this was in any way subversive.

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[redacted] added the applicant was of good character, and had

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		FEB 27 1953	

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25 JUN 11 1953

NO. #123-623

a good reputation. He said REDDING was having some family difficulties while he was at Southern but he felt these had been straightened out inasmuch as he has visited in the REDDING home several times since then and there is no indication of marital difficulties. He said the applicant lived in a house on their campus while he was there, and was very well respected.

[redacted] Auditor's Office, Southern University, advised she knew the applicant well while he was at the university. She remembered he had a good reputation, was of good character, and regarded as a loyal citizen. She could furnish only favorable information concerning him.

[redacted] Administrative Offices, Southern University, advised she, too, recalled the applicant well, and she furnished virtually the same information concerning him as did [redacted]

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[redacted] Southern University, advised he recalled the applicant well and, in fact, lived a short distance from him while he resided on the campus. He said the applicant was regarded as a loyal citizen and he did not believe he was connected with any subversive organization. He stated the applicant was having some marital difficulties while he was there, but he had since learned these had been cleared. He said he had a good reputation on the campus and was considered to be of good character.

[redacted] Southern University, informed he knew the applicant well and that he lived near him on the campus while he was on the campus. He said REDDING had a good reputation, was of good character and was generally well regarded. He advised the applicant, in his opinion, was a loyal citizen and he knew of no connection he might have with a subversive organization.

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There is no record of REDDING with the Baton Rouge Credit Bureau, the Baton Rouge Police Department or the Louisiana State Police.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, who was acquainted with some Communist Party members at Baton Rouge during the period 1936-38, did not know the applicant.

Confidential Informants cognizant of some phases of Communist Party activity in New Orleans area, and who know the identities of many members of the Communist Party, advised that they did not know applicant.

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NO #123-623

ADMINISTRATIVE

INFORMANTS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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The following Confidential Informants in New Orleans  
were contacted by the following Agents:

[REDACTED]

- by SA  
- by SA  
- by SA

[REDACTED]



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NORFOLK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/27/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/25,26/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>31 Nov 1953</b> <span style="float: right;">plc</span>
TITLE <b>JAY SAUNDERS REDDING</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY-STATE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC LAW 402, 80TH CONGRESS VOICE OF AMERICA</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Records at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., reflect employment from 9/1/43 to present. Nothing noted in file of derogatory nature. Associates highly recommend as to patriotism and reputation. All associates believe applicant a person who can be trusted and recommended for position. One associate recommends with reservation that any writing or lecturing done by applicant be reviewed before being presented. Associates consider purpose of writing to improve Negroes position in present day society, and not as being subversive. T-1 considered applicant poor choice for any position where applicant would lecture or write, as writings reflect bitterness and could be construed by any subversive group as anti-American propaganda. Criminal negative with exception of one minor traffic violation. Credit satisfactory.

**REFERENCE:**

Bulet to Norfolk dated 2/6/53.

—RUC—

CC TO: State (C. 112-45-44)  
REQ. REC'D. 2-14-64

DEC 30 1964

ANS. BY: *Mr. J. A. ...*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 7 Bureau (123-14868) 1 Norfolk (123-394) 1 CC 4 R 6, Conn		123-14868-9 MAR 5 1953 RECORDED - 101

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25 JUN 11 1953



NF 123-394

**DETAILS:**

**AT HAMPTON, VIRGINIA**

Personnel records located at the Office of the Dean of Faculty, Hampton Institute, reflected that applicant has been employed as a professor of literature and composition since September 1, 1943.

Birth data verified according to records.

Records further reflected that applicant was on leave in 1949 for one semester at which time he went on a lecture tour for the American Friends Committee, and on another occasion in 1952, for a month and a half at which time he visited India on behalf of the United States State Department. There was nothing noted in the records of a derogatory or unpatriotic nature.

[redacted] Hampton Institute, advised he has known the applicant professionally and socially for 9 years. He stated that he felt he knows the applicant quite well and has had no reason during the course of his association with applicant, to question the loyalty of the applicant or his family to the U. S. Government, nor would he have any reason to question reputation or known associates. He stated he has met the applicant's father and his brother, LOUIS, who is an attorney in Wilmington, Delaware, as well as one of his sisters and he has had no reason to question any of them. As to the applicant's brother LOUIS, [redacted] said he was associated with him for about six weeks when they were both on a segregation case in the schools at Wilmington, Delaware. He said that the brother has an excellent reputation in his community and he knew of no reason to doubt his patriotism.

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[redacted] further advised that he is acquainted with the applicant's writings and feels that they are not meant to set forth any pro-Communist ideas, but are directed toward the improvement of the Negro's position in present day society. He said that the applicant has been very critical in his writings as to the status of the Negro, but is endeavoring, through the writings, to give a better understanding of the Negro's plight. [redacted] stated he felt the criticism set forth by the applicant is meant to be of a constructive sort and has no subversive purpose whatsoever behind it.

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[redacted] said that he knew of no subversive organizations to which the applicant held membership and would recommend him for a position of trust with the Government. He stated that assuming the applicant is to prepare material for either writing or lecturing for the Government, he would be

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an excellent choice to answer any propaganda charges and would have an excellent understanding as to what material would be relevant. He stated that he was certain Professor REDDING did not hold to any other economic system than the American system of economy which [ ] personally felt was an indication that the applicant had no subversive leanings.

[ ] Hampton Institute, stated he has been acquainted with applicant professionally as well as socially since 1929, and had no doubt as to the applicant being a loyal U. S. citizen as well as no question as to his reputation or known associates. He advised that he met the applicant's father and brother, LOUIS, and had no reason to question either of them. As to the applicant's brother, [ ] said that he was aware of the fact that he was prominent in segregation cases which were being conducted in Delaware. The brother, he felt, is attempting to aid the Negro's plight through his contributions in the legal field. He stated that the brother is <sup>y</sup>an National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Attorney and is not aware of any affiliation of the brother with organizations which are in any way subversive.

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[ ] said that the applicant is very critical in his writings which deal primarily with the status of the Negro in America. He did not feel that they were in any way anti-American, but felt the applicant had as his objective the improvement of the status of the Negro. He stated that the applicant is a person who is very emotional and high-strung and these traits come out in his writings, which deal with the disadvantages and handicaps of being a Negro. He said that applicant is subjective as an individual and his writings hold to his subjective opinion.

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[ ] said that he would recommend the applicant for a position of trust with the Government, but would recommend that if it were a position in which he was to do any writing, that his material should be carefully reviewed before being presented publicly. [ ] said it is quite possible that people subjected to his writing might take it in a very different light than the author may be attempting to impart. He suggested that the applicant's latest publication, "On Being A Negro In America" would give the reviewing authorities a good idea as to what he, [ ] means. The applicant, in his works, expresses his individual opinions and these may not be concurred with by the Government.

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[redacted] Hampton Institute, advised he has known the applicant professionally as well as socially since 1943, and highly recommended the applicant as to patriotism, morals, character, and known associates. He further advised that he is not well acquainted with any other than the applicant's immediate family located at Hampton, but from what he knows of the other members of the family, he would have no reason to question any of them.

He stated that the applicant is not interested in any sort of organizations and is what might be classified as a "non-joiner". He advised that he is acquainted with applicant's writings and believes that the latest book of the applicant, "On Being A Negro In America" is a hard blow to Communism. He stated that applicant is a subjective and emotional writer and that his works could definitely be termed as not being subversive.

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[redacted] Hampton Institute, advised he has known the applicant professionally and socially for six years and recommended both the applicant and his family as to patriotism, morals, character, and associates. He stated that the applicant is a very creative writer, sociologically and psychologically. He believed that the applicant thought on the basis of his convictions which are not of a subversive nature, but are pointed more at bringing a better adjustment as to the use and problems of the Negroes. He advised that it is his belief that the applicant is opposed to any philosophy such as those of the Communists. He stated that applicant is a person who could assume a position of trust.

Confidential Informant T-1, of unknown reliability, advised that she has known the applicant professionally since 1943, and would hesitate to recommend him for any position with the Government as his writings give reason to believe that he has a bitterness about the plight of the Negroes. T-1 felt that the applicant should not be used to do any work which involves either lecturing or writing as he injects this bitterness in his work, although it is probably his purpose to forward the progress of the Negroes. T-1 said his work might well be used to incite race hatred of the white race.

T-1 stated that she has actually no reason to question the loyalty of the applicant to the United States, although she has often considered as to whether or not the applicant is a Communist. T-1 did not wish to make any written statement nor did she wish to appear before a hearing board.

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[redacted]  
[redacted] and [redacted] all of Hampton Institute, stated they have known the applicant professionally since 1943 and have no reason to doubt the applicant's loyalty to the United States, nor have they any reason to question his reputation or associates.

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There was no record of the applicant or his family in the files of the Hampton Jail, and the only record of the applicant at the Hampton Police Department was that of one minor traffic violation in 1950.

The applicant has a satisfactory credit rating according to the files of the Hampton Retail Merchants Association.

T-2, of known reliability, who is familiar with certain phases of the Communist Party activity in the Norfolk area, advised that he is not acquainted with nor has he heard leaders of the local Communist Party ever mention JAY SAUNDERS REDDING.

—RUC—

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

It should be noted that associates of the applicant are aware of the fact that the position for which the applicant is being considered is with the Voice of America.

[redacted] Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia,  
provided the following list of publications of the applicant:

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"To Make a Port Black"

Published in 1939 by the University of  
North Carolina Press

"No Day of Triumph"

Published in 1942 by Harper

"Stranger and Alone"

Published by Harcourt, Brace & Company

"They Came in Chains"

Published by Lippencott

"On Being a Negro in America"

INFORMANT

T-1 is [redacted]

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T-2 is [redacted] who furnished this information to SA [redacted]  
on February 26, 1953.



INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-25-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/CLD

FBI NORFOLK

3/2/53

AIR-TEL

*Seal*  
SAC CLEVELAND (Air Mail)

JAY SAUNDERS REDDING, VOA. BUDED 2/27/53. BULET TO NF DATED 2/6/53 REFLECTS APPLICANT BORN 10/13/06 AT WILMINGTON, DEL., AND REFLECTS APPLICANT IS AUTHOR OF A BOOK, "ON BEING NEGRO IN AMERICA." LETTER STATES OBSERVE INSTRUCTIONS IN BUREAU BULLETIN 35, SERIES 1952, CONTACT INFORMANTS, SUBMIT SEVEN COPIES OF UREP. BULET DATED 2/13/53 CALLS ATTENTION TO REFERENCE ON APPLICANT ON PAGE 18 OF REPORT OF SA [REDACTED] DATED 3/18/44 AT CLEVELAND ENTITLED "UNIVERSAL NEGRO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION," URFILE 100-6264. SINCE NF UNABLE TO FURNISH COMPLETE INFO SUITABLE FOR VOA REPORT, CLEVELAND SHOULD REPORT INFO FURNISHED BY T-1 AS PERTAINS TO APPLICANT AND IF INFORMANT AVAILABLE, HE SHOULD BE REINTERVIEWED.

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WILLIS

END

MES:ajd  
123-394

cc: Bureau (123-14868)

123-14868-

NOT RECORDED  
MAY 11 1953

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 09-23-2007 BY AUC 60324/BAW/STP/cld

FBI NORFOLK

3/2/53

AIR-TEL

*Send*  
SAC NEW ORLEANS (Air Mail)

JAY SAUNDERS REDDING, VOA. REBULET TO NF DATED FEB. 6, 1953, CC TO NEW ORLEANS. BULET TO NF DATED FEB. 13 LAST REFLECTS APPLICANT NAMED IN YOUR FILE 100-759, PAGE 15, OF REPORT OF SA [ ] DATED OCT. 13, 1950, AT NEW ORLEANS. SINCE ORIGINAL INFO FURNISHED BY NEW ORLEANS INFORMANT AND NEW ORLEANS RECEIVED COPY OF REBULET DATED FEB. 6, 1953, NEW ORLEANS SHOULD REPORT DETAILS OF INFO FURNISHED BY INFORMANT AS SET FORTH IN REPORT OF SA [ ]

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WILLIS

END

MES:ajd  
123-394

cc: Bureau (123-14868)

*NO*  
*123-14868-1*  
NOT RECORDED  
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~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

FILE NO.

R

REPORT MADE AT BALTIMORE	DATE WHEN MADE 3/4/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/16,17,19,24, 25;3/2,3/53	REPORT MADE BY [redacted] ah
TITLE JAY SAUNDERS REDDING			CHARACTER OF CASE VOICE OF AMERICA

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

No record of applicant's birth located at Wilmington, Del. Neighbors, who have known applicant and family over 25 years, advise family has maintained a fine reputation and they consider applicant honest, reliable, trustworthy and have had no reason to doubt his loyalty. No credit or criminal record on applicant. Applicant's father has satisfactory credit rating. Applicant's

Applicant's brother, LOUIS, has been identified as having been a member and legal adviser to Communist Party approximately 20 years ago. Information reflecting his connection with National Lawyers Guild, National Negro Congress and endorsement of the lifting of the Loyalists Spanish Embargo set out.

*100-214*  
*7-31-61*  
*13-3-61*  
*AGENCY 11-6-53*  
*REQ. REC'D 5-11-53*  
*REP'T FORW. 6-22-53*  
*EX. 11-1-53*

INDEXED.

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Norfolk, February 6, 1953.

DETAILS:

BIRTH

[redacted] Bureau of Vital Statistics, Wilmington, Delaware Board of Health, advised [redacted] that he could locate no record of applicant's birth.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [redacted] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 123-14868-10 MAR 16 1953 RECORDED - INDEXED
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NEIGHBORHOOD

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] all of Wilmington, Delaware, advised SA [redacted] that they have known the applicant and his family for forty-five, forty-four and thirty-five years, respectively, as neighbors. They added that the applicant is an honest, reliable, trustworthy and reliable man of exemplary character and reputation within the neighborhood. They further advised that they have no reason to doubt the applicant's loyalty to the United States or his ability to have access to confidential or restricted information. They stated that the applicant's associates include only people of the highest calibre and that they would recommend the applicant for a position of trust. All stated that the applicant's family has maintained a fine reputation in the neighborhood and are highly respected by all the neighbors.

MISCELLANEOUS

In a prior investigation in March, 1944, [redacted] who presently resides at [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that approximately two years ago he, [redacted] was a member of the Communist Party in Wilmington, Delaware, and at the same time, LOUIS LORENZO REDDING (who is identical with applicant's brother) was also a member of the Communist Party of Wilmington, Delaware. He stated that he and LOUIS L. REDDING had been present together at meetings of the Communist Party held on the second floor of the building located at Sixth and Tatnall Streets in Wilmington. He also advised that during that same period, LOUIS REDDING was also legal adviser of the Party.

The Communist Party has been designated by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

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In the latter part of 1951, [redacted] was recontacted and reaffirmed his identification of LOUIS LORENZO REDDING as a person with whom he had attended Communist Party meetings in Wilmington, Delaware in the 1920's. He said upon recontact that he believes that REDDING was an attorney at the time he was attending Communist Party meetings but he admitted that it was possible that LOUIS REDDING was in attendance at these meetings prior to the time he was graduated from Harvard Law School, but he also stated that to his own knowledge LOUIS REDDING was the Legal Adviser of the Communist Party at that time.

BA123-1890

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, who has knowledge of some phases of Communist Party activity in the Wilmington, Delaware area, advised in the latter part of 1951, that he had no definite knowledge that LOUIS LORENZO REDDING had been an actual member of the Communist Party and he knew of no specific activity on the part of REDDING that would indicate that he was a member of the Communist Party.

T-1 recalled that LOUIS L. REDDING had some contact with a member of the East Side Branch of the Communist Party in Wilmington, Delaware, but he did not recall the nature of this connection or the source from which he learned of this connection. T-1 recalled that LOUIS REDDING has in the past contributed financially to the Party, but he could recall no specific instances when he made these contributions.

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, who has knowledge of some phases of Communist Party activity in the Wilmington, Delaware area, advised in November, 1951 that he has no information that LOUIS LORENZO REDDING is a member of the Communist Party.

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-3, a prominent member of the State Bar Association in Wilmington, Delaware, advised in November, 1951 that he had heard fellow lawyers in Wilmington, whose names he could not recall, describe LOUIS LORENZO REDDING as a person believed to have Communist sympathies because of his activity against racial discrimination. However, T-3 said he knows nothing definite that would indicate that LOUIS REDDING is a Communist and he does not recall that anyone specifically gave him any proof that LOUIS REDDING is a Communist.

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-4, a prominent member of the State Bar Association, Wilmington, Delaware, advised in November, 1951 that he has never received any information to the effect that LOUIS LORENZO REDDING is a Communist or member of the Communist Party.

Baltimore Confidential Informant T-2 advised in November, 1951 that LOUIS REDDING handles all labor work for the Delaware Fellowship Commission.

It is noted that on January 2, 1951 T-2 advised that the Delaware Fellowship Commission was an organization formed shortly prior thereto for the purpose of eliminating discrimination. He